

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Roller Blinds.

We, G. HALL & COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company, of Fitzherbert Road, Farlington, Portsmouth, Hampshire, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to roller blinds of textile material or the like intended for interior use and provided with a rigid member or bottom rail which serves the purpose of stiffening the free end of the blind and of providing a rigid attachment point for a pull cord.

In the Complete Specification of our prior Patent Application No. 40369/65 (Serial No. 1,114,092) we have disclosed a roller blind wherein the free or lower end of the blind fabric is received within a hollow bottom rail of moulded plastics material or rolled sheet metal and is retained therein by laths attached to the end of the blind fabric and held completely within the rail.

According to the present invention there is provided a roller blind wherein the lower end of the blind is received within an upper portion of a hollow bottom rail and is retained therein by a lath attached to the blind fabric at or near its end and held completely within the rail, and a trim strip of material extending downwards from the rail is received within a lower portion of the rail and retained therein by a lath attached to the strip and held completely within the rail.

An embodiment of the invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a section of a bottom rail of a roller blind in which the lower end of the blind is received; and

Fig. 2 is a similar section to that of Fig. 1

[Price 5s. 0d.]

illustrating a refinement of the embodiment of the embodiment of Fig. 1.

The bottom rail 1 shown in both Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 is cut from a length of hollow extruded plastics material of approximately pear-shaped cross-section, the rail having a longitudinal slit 2 along its upper edge through which is inserted the lower end of a blind fabric 3, a lath 4 or laths 5 being stapled or otherwise fixed to the lower portion of the blind to prevent it being withdrawn from the rail.

The rail, includes an internal cross web intermediate to the upper and lower edges, dividing the inside of the rail into upper and lower portions 6 and 7 respectively. A longitudinal slit 8 is also provided along the lower edge of the rail, a trim strip 9, which may have a scalloped lower edge or other ornamental form, being entered and retained within the slotted lower portion 7 of the rail by a lath 10 or laths 11 in a similar manner to the retention of the blind in the upper portion 6 of the rail.

In the refinement shown in Fig. 2 the lower end portion of the blind fabric 3 is secured within the upper portion 6 of the rail by fixture to a lath 4 at a distance from the bottom edge 12 of the fabric and the fabric is subsequently passed around the lath, outwards through the upper slit 2, around an outer face 13 of the rail, through the lower slit 8, and is secured to a further lath 14 within the lower portion 7 of the rail.

In this manner, one face of the rail is covered with the material of the blind. In a further refinement the fabric may extend around this further lath 14 and out through the lower slit 8 to form the trim strip.

A similar result may be attained by extending the trim fabric, after entering the lower portion 7, about one face of the rail

and into the upper portion where it would be secured by a lath. If it is desired to cover both faces of the rail the blind fabric may be passed around one face and the trim

5 fabric about the other.

If desired, the bottom rail may be provided with end caps frictionally or otherwise retained thereon and slit to accommodate the edge portions of the end of the blind.

10 Furthermore, the bottom rail structure can be extended beyond the side edges of the blind fabric to form guides for engagement with adjacent window reveals.

15 The bottom rail can be apertured for the attachment of a pull cord.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A roller blind wherein the lower end of the blind is received within an upper portion of a hollow bottom rail and is retained therein by a lath attached to the blind fabric at or near its end and held completely within the rail, and a trim strip of material extending downwards from the rail is received within a lower portion of the

20 rail and retained therein by a lath attached to the strip and held completely within the rail.
2. A roller blind as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bottom rail has an internal cross web and a respective longitudinal slit along its upper and lower edges through which

the end of the blind fabric and the end of the trim strip are inserted respectively.

3. A roller blind as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the end of the blind fabric or the trim strip passes around the respective lath and around one side of the bottom rail and is received within the opposite edge of the rail and retained therein by a further lath.

4. A roller blind as claimed in any of Claim 1—3 wherein the bottom rail is provided with end caps frictionally or otherwise retained thereon and slit to accommodate the edge portions of the end of the blind.

5. A roller blind as claimed in any of Claims 1—4 wherein the bottom rail structure is extended beyond the side edges of the blind fabric to form guides for engagement with adjacent window reveals.

6. A roller blind as claimed in any of Claims 1—5, wherein the bottom rail is apertured for the attachment of a pull cord.

7. A roller blind constructed substantially as herein described and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

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